

STRANGER THINGS

#104

THE BODY

Refusing to believe Will is dead, Joyce tries to connect with her son. The boys give Eleven a makeover in order to connect with Will. Nancy and Jonathan form an unlikely alliance.

EXT. BYERS HOUSE (HAWKINS) – FRONT YARD – NIGHT

The flashing lights of the police cars flash blue and red onto the front of the house. Callahan stands talking to Joyce and Jonathan, who hold onto each other. We don't hear them.

INT. BYERS HOUSE (HAWKINS) – HALLWAY – NIGHT

Powell investigates the kitchen. Hopper walks down the hallway towards the lounge room, meeting up with Powell.

INT. BYERS HOUSE (HAWKINS) – LOUNGE ROOM – NIGHT

POWELL: This the wall she was talking about, Chief?

Hopper and Powell point their flashlights at the wall the Demogorgon came out of. The wall looks completely normal.

HOPPER (O.S.): (distorted) A trooper found something in the, uh...

INT. BYERS HOUSE (HAWKINS) – LOUNGE ROOM – NIGHT

Hopper explains what happened to Joyce, who stares at the wall the Demogorgon came out of.

HOPPER (CONT'D): (distorted) water that's at the quarry. Our working theory right now is that Will...crashed his bike, he...made his way over the quarry and, uh...accidentally fell in. The earth must have given way.

Joyce's eyes flicker around, unbelieving of what she's hearing. She doesn't look at Hopper.

HOPPER (CONT'D): (distorted) Joyce? (clearly) Joyce? Do you understand what I'm saying?

JOYCE: No.

Joyce shakes her head. She looks at Hopper.

JOYCE (CONT'D): Whoever you found...is not my boy. It's not Will.

HOPPER: Joyce.

JOYCE: No, you don't understand. I talked to him...a half hour ago.

Joyce walks over to the crawlspace and opens it up.

JOYCE (CONT'D): He was...he was here. He was...

Joyce picks up the tangled pile of Christmas lights.

JOYCE (CONT'D): He was talking with these.

HOPPER: Talking?

JOYCE: Uh-huh. One blink for yes, two for no.

Joyce puts the tangled pile of lights back.

JOYCE (CONT'D): And...and, uh...

Joyce starts gesturing at the wall she painted the alphabet on.

JOYCE (CONT'D): And then I made this so he could talk to me. Cause he was hiding...

Joyce points at the wall the Demogorgon came out of.

JOYCE (CONT'D): From that...that thing.

HOPPER: The thing that came out of the wall? The thing that chased you?

JOYCE: Yeah. Yeah.

JONATHAN: Mum, come on, please.

Jonathan walks up to Joyce.

JONATHAN (CONT'D): You've got to stop this.

JOYCE: No, maybe he's...it's after him! He's in danger. We have to find him! We-

HOPPER: What exactly was this thing? It was some kind of animal, you said?

JOYCE: Uh, no, it was...it was almost...human, but it wasn't. It...it had these long arms and...it didn't have a face.

Jonathan can't stand Joyce's rambling anymore and walks away.

HOPPER: It didn't have a face?

Joyce starts looking around, skittish. Hopper reaches out and grabs her arms, slowly ushering her to sit down.

HOPPER (CONT'D): Joyce.

JOYCE: It didn't have a face...

HOPPER: Joyce, listen to me.

Joyce sits down. Hopper kneels in front of her.

HOPPER (CONT'D): Listen to me. After Sara...I saw her, too. And I heard her. I didn't know what was real. And then I figured out that it was in my mind. And I had to pack all that away. Otherwise, I was gonna fall down a hole...that I couldn't get out of.

JOYCE: No, you're...you're talking about grief. This is different.

Hopper sighs.

HOPPER: I'm just saying that you-

JOYCE: No, I know what you're saying, Hop. I swear to you, I know what I saw. And I'm not crazy.

HOPPER: I'm not saying that you're crazy.

JOYCE: No...you are. And I understand, but...God, I...I need you to believe me. Please. (whispers) Please.

HOPPER: Listen...I think you should go to the morgue tomorrow and see him for yourself. It'll give you the answers that you need. But tonight...

JOYCE: Oh, God.

HOPPER: I want you to try and get some sleep, if you can.

Joyce looks conflicted but resigns, hanging her head. Hopper stands up, walking away. Joyce looks back at the wall the Demogorgon came out of, standing up and slowly approaching it.

EXT. BYERS HOUSE (HAWKINS) – FRONT YARD – NIGHT

Hopper opens the front door and steps out, putting his hat on as he closes the door. He walks over to his truck, starting the engine. He looks at the Byers house and sighs, shutting the engine off before leaning back into his seat and sighing again. He tilts his hat over his face and tries to fall asleep.

INT. BYERS HOUSE (HAWKINS) – JONATHAN'S ROOM – NIGHT

He listens to music as he attempts to fall asleep, trying not to cry.

INT. BYERS HOUSE (HAWKINS) – HALLWAY – NIGHT

Joyce walks down the hallway, stopping outside Jonathan's room. She raises her hand to knock on the door before thinking better of it.

EXT. BYERS HOUSE (HAWKINS) – BACK YARD – NIGHT

Joyce opens the back porch's door and runs down the stairs, marching over to the shed. She pulls the door open and goes inside, the door shutting behind her. The door opens seconds later, and Joyce emerges holding an axe. She marches back to the stairs and walks up them, opening the back porch's door and walking inside.

INT. BYERS HOUSE (HAWKINS) – LOUNGE ROOM – NIGHT

Joyce marches towards the couch, sitting down and staring at the wall the Demogorgon came out of. She grips the axe tightly, a determined look on her face. She's prepared.

INT. WHEELER HOUSE – LOUNGE ROOM – NIGHT

A news report is playing on the TV. Karen and Ted sit on the couch, watching it.

REPORTER (ON TV): Byers' body was found in the water of this quarry by state police earlier this evening. It was discovered by state trooper David O'Bannon, just after dark. The state police are mounting an investigation to determine Byers' cause of death, but an initial inquiry...

TED: Should I go down and talk to Michael?

KAREN: Give him time. He'll come to us when he's ready.

Karen takes Ted's hand and squeezes it. Ted hangs his head.

INT. WHEELER HOUSE – BASEMENT – NIGHT

Mike goes through a pile of Will's drawings. Static crackles from the Supercomm. Feedback whines. The crackling continues. Mike sighs in annoyance and looks over at Eleven.

MIKE: Can you please stop that?

Eleven looks up at him. Mike goes back to looking through Will's drawings. Eleven goes back to playing with the Supercomm. The crackling restarts. Mike sighs again.

MIKE: Are you deaf?

Eleven doesn't look at him.

MIKE (CONT'D): I thought we were friends, you know?

Eleven looks up at him.

MIKE (CONT'D): But friends tell each other the truth. And they definitely don't lie to each other. You made me think Will was okay, that he was still out there, but he wasn't. He wasn't!

Eleven looks guilty.

MIKE (CONT'D): Maybe you thought you were helping, but you weren't. You hurt me. Do you understand? What you did sucks.

Eleven looks upset.

MIKE (CONT'D): Lucas was right about you. All along.

Eleven looks back down at the Supercomm. The static crackling starts again.

Mike looks at a drawing of the group's D&D characters.

WILL (ON SUPERCOMM): (singing) So come on and let me know...

Mike looks over at Eleven.

WILL (CONT'D)(ON SUPERCOMM): (singing) Should I stay or should I go?...

Eleven looks up at Mike. Her nose is bleeding.

WILL (CONT'D)(ON SUPERCOMM): (singing) Should I stay or should I go now?...

Mike puts Will's drawings beside him and rushes over to Eleven. He kneels in front of her.

WILL (CONT'D)(ON SUPERCOMM): (singing) Should I stay or should I go now?...

Eleven hands the Supercomm to Mike.

WILL (CONT'D)(ON SUPERCOMM): (singing) If I go there will be trouble...if I stay it will be double...

Mike grabs the Supercomm out of Eleven's hands and puts it up to his ear.

MIKE: Will, is that you? It's Mike! Do you copy? Over.

The static crackles.

MIKE (CONT'D): Will, are you there?

The static crackles.

MIKE (CONT'D): Will!

The static crackles. Mike takes the Supercomm away from his ear. He looks at Eleven.

MIKE (CONT'D): Was that...was it...

Eleven gives a small smile.

ELEVEN: Will.

Cut to black.

MAIN TITLES.

CHAPTER FOUR: THE BODY.

INT. BYERS HOUSE (HAWKINS) – LOUNGE ROOM – DAY

Joyce sits on the couch. She's fallen asleep, axe still in her hand.

WILL (O.S.): Mum...

Joyce wakes up instantly, looking in the direction of the kitchen. When she doesn't see anything, she sighs. Suddenly, Will is in front of her.

WILL (CONT'D): (distorted) Mum!

INT. BYERS HOUSE (HAWKINS) – LOUNGE ROOM – DAY

Joyce wakes up with a start. Instead of Will in front of her, it's Jonathan.

JONATHAN: Mum! Wake up.

JOYCE: What...what time is it?

JONATHAN: It's almost 8:00. We have to go.

JOYCE: Go where? Where?

JONATHAN: To see Will.

EXT. WHEELER HOUSE – FRONT YARD – DAY

The sound of knocking on a door can be heard.

KAREN (O.S.): Michael?

INT. WHEELER HOUSE – MIKE'S ROOM – DAY

Karen opens the door.

KAREN: Hi, honey. How are you feeling?

Karen walks over to Mike's bed. He has the covers up to his chin.

MIKE: I, uh...

Karen sits beside Mike.

MIKE (CONT'D): I don't think I can go to school today.

KAREN: Oh, that's fine, sweetie. I need to drop off Nance, then I'm gonna check in on Barb's parents. Why don't you grab a book or something and come with me? We can stop by the video store on the way back, pick out whatever you want. Even R-rated.

MIKE: I think I just want to stay home today. I mean, if that's okay?

KAREN: Well, are you sure you're gonna be all right here by yourself?

MIKE: I think so.

Karen sighs.

KAREN: Okay. But if you need anything, call Dad at work.

Mike nods.

MIKE: (softly) Okay.

KAREN: Okay.

Karen leans over and kisses Mike on the forehead, before she stands up heads to the door.

MIKE: Bye.

KAREN: Bye, sweetie.

Karen closes the door behind her. As soon as the door is closed, Mike throws the covers off and reaches for his Supercomm. He extends the antenna and puts the Supercomm to his ear.

MIKE: Lucas, do you copy?

INT. SINCLAIR HOUSE – LUCAS' BEDROOM – DAY

Lucas lies on his bed, ignoring the Supercomm.

MIKE (CONT'D)(ON SUPERCOMM): Lucas, come on, I know you're there!

INT. WHEELER HOUSE – MIKE'S ROOM – DAY

MIKE (CONT'D): This is urgent. I'm serious.

INT. SINCLAIR HOUSE – LUCAS' BEDROOM – DAY

Lucas continues to ignore the Supercomm.

INT. WHEELER HOUSE – MIKE'S ROOM – DAY

Mike stands up.

MIKE (CONT'D): I'm not gonna stop until you answer. Lucas. Lucas! Lucas, Lucas, Lucas, Lucas, Lucas...

INT. SINCLAIR HOUSE – LUCAS' BEDROOM – DAY

Lucas sits up in annoyance and grabs the Supercomm, extending the antenna.

MIKE (CONT'D)(ON SUPERCOMM): Lucas, Lucas, Lucas, Lucas, Lucas, Lucas, Lucas-

LUCAS: Go away, Mike. I'm not in the mood, all right? Over and out.

Lucas goes to de-extend the antenna.

MIKE (ON SUPERCOMM): No, not "out".

INT. WHEELER HOUSE – MIKE'S ROOM – DAY

MIKE (CONT'D): I'm not messing around, okay? This is about Will.

INT. SINCLAIR HOUSE – LUCAS' BEDROOM – DAY

MIKE (CONT'D)(ON SUPERCOMM): Over.

LUCAS: What about Will? You mean his funeral? Over.

INT. WHEELER HOUSE – MIKE'S ROOM – DAY

MIKE: No, not his funeral. Screw his funeral!

INT. SINCLAIR HOUSE – LUCAS' BEDROOM – DAY

LUCAS: What?

MIKE (ON SUPERCOMM): Just get over here stat.

INT. WHEELER HOUSE – MIKE'S ROOM – DAY

MIKE (CONT'D): And bring Dustin. Over and out.

INT. ROANE COUNTY CORONER – WAITING ROOM – DAY

Hopper sits in a chair. He sighs.

HOPPER: What's taking so long?

PATTY: Well, everything's been a bit chaotic around here without Gary.

HOPPER: Without Gary? Where's Gary?

PATTY: Well, I thought you knew. Those men from State, they...they sent Gary home last night.

HOPPER: So, who did the autopsy?

PATTY: Someone from State.

INT. ROANE COUNTY CORONER – HALLWAY – DAY

Joyce and Jonathan watch the morgue worker. In the glass' reflection, the morgue worker stands in front of a covered table. As they watch, the morgue worker reaches over and pulls the cover off the table, revealing a boy's body. Jonathan gags, running off to find somewhere to vomit.

JOYCE: He has a birth mark on his right arm. Can you show that to me, please?

INT. ROANE COUNTY CORONER – WAITING ROOM – DAY

Hopper and Jonathan sit on chairs. Jonathan looks numb, unsure of what he's feeling. Hopper looks as though he wants to comfort Jonathan but doesn't know how.

HOPPER: How's your mum doing?

JONATHAN: I don't know.

HOPPER: How long's this stuff been going on? With the lights and, uh...Will and the thing in the wall?

JONATHAN: Since the first phone call, I guess. You know, she's had anxiety problems...in the past. But this...I don't know.

Jonathan takes a deep breath.

JONATHAN (CONT'D): I'm worried it could be...ugh, I don't know.

Jonathan hangs his head. He looks at Hopper.

JONATHAN (CONT'D): She'll be okay. We'll be okay. My mum...she's tough.

Jonathan chuckles. He looks like he's going to cry.

HOPPER: Yeah, she is.

Hopper reaches out and places his hand on Jonathan's shoulder.

HOPPER (CONT'D): Hey. She is.

Jonathan smiles.

MORGUE WORKER (O.S.): Ma'am!

Hopper and Jonathan look up to see Joyce storming towards the door, the morgue worker following behind with a clipboard and pen.

MORGUE WORKER (CONT'D): Ma'am, I need you to sign!

JOYCE: I don't...I don't know what you think that thing is in there, but that is not my son!

HOPPER: Joyce, wait a second.

JOYCE: No!

Joyce moves to leave.

JONATHAN: Mum!

MORGUE WORKER: Ma'am, I...ma'am!

Joyce walks out the door. Jonathan grabs his jacket and runs after her. Hopper watches them go, confused.

EXT. HAWKINS HIGH SCHOOL – DAY

The bell rings. Students mingle outside.

STEVE (O.S.): So, wait a sec.

EXT. HAWKINS HIGH SCHOOL – ALLEY – DAY

Nancy and Steve stand facing each other.

STEVE (CONT'D): I don't understand. You went back to my house?

NANCY: To look for Barb.

STEVE: Yeah, okay, but why didn't you just talk to me? That's crazy.

NANCY: I don't know, I...I was scared.

STEVE: You seriously think you saw a guy in a mask just hanging out in my yard?

NANCY: I don't think it was a mask.

STEVE: But he had no face?

NANCY: I don't know! I don't know, I just...I have a terrible feeling about this.

STEVE: Oh, this is bad. This is really bad.

Steve leans against one of the brick walls.

NANCY: What?

STEVE: The cops...they're gonna want to talk to all of us now. Tommy, Carol, everybody who was at the party.

NANCY: So?

STEVE: My parents are gonna murder me!

NANCY: Are you serious right now?

STEVE: You don't understand. My dad's a grade-A asshole.

NANCY: Barb is missing! And you're worried about your dad?

STEVE: Okay, just...when you talk to the cops, just...

Steve pushes himself off the wall and steps towards Nancy.

STEVE (CONT'D): Don't mention the beers. It's just gonna get us both in trouble, and Barbara's got nothing to do with it, okay?

Nancy scoffs.

NANCY: I can't believe you right now.

Nancy starts to walk away.

NANCY (CONT'D): I can't believe you.

STEVE: Nancy.

Nancy walks away. Steve watches her go.

STEVE (CONT'D): Nancy, wait! Nancy!

EXT. DOWNTOWN HAWKINS – DAY

Joyce walks down a path, wrapped up in her own head. A car pulls up beside her and drives slowly as she walks.

JONATHAN: Mum, will you get in?

JOYCE: No, I...I need to think. Just go on home.

JONATHAN: Mum, will you get in, please?

Joyce holds her hand up to wave Jonathan away. He stops the car and gets out.

JONATHAN (CONT'D): Mum.

Joyce, now on a pedestrian crossing, waves Jonathan away again. He runs up to her.

JONATHAN (CONT'D): Mum!

Jonathan runs up and grabs Joyce's shoulder.

JONATHAN (CONT'D): Mum. Stop.

Joyce turns around and faces Jonathan.

JOYCE: Just go home, Jonathan.

JONATHAN: No, this is not an okay time for you to shut down.

JOYCE: Shut down? What...

JONATHAN: We have to deal with this, Mum. We have to deal with the funeral!

JOYCE: The funeral? For...for who? For that thing back there?

JONATHAN: Okay, let me get this straight. Will, that's not his body, because he's in the lights, right? And there's a monster in the wall? Do you even hear yourself?

JOYCE: I know it sounds crazy. I sound crazy!

JONATHAN: Yeah.

JOYCE: You think I don't know that? It is crazy! But I heard him, Jonathan. He talked to me! Will is...is calling to me! And he's out there, and he's alone, and he's scared, and I...I don't care if anyone believes me! I am not gonna stop looking for him until I find him and bring him home. (shouting) I am going to bring him home!

Joyce turns and starts walking away.

JONATHAN: (yelling) Yeah, well, while you're talking to the lights, the rest of us are having a funeral for Will! I'm not letting him sit in that freezer another day!

A small crowd has gathered. Jonathan looks at them.

JONATHAN (CONT'D): All right, show's over.

Jonathan turns around and walks back to his car.

INT. WHEELER HOUSE – BASEMENT – DAY

Eleven sits playing with the Supercomm. A faint and static-y whimper can be heard. Mike, Lucas, and Dustin sit watching her.

MIKE: We keep losing the signal, but you heard it, right?

LUCAS: Yeah, I heard a baby.

MIKE: What?

LUCAS: Mike, you obviously tapped into a baby monitor. It's probably the Blackburns' next door.

MIKE: Uh, did that sound like a baby to you? That was Will!

LUCAS: Mike...

MIKE: Lucas, you don't understand. He spoke last night. Words! He was singing that weird song he loves. Even El heard him!

LUCAS: Oh, well, if the weirdo heard him, then I guess-

DUSTIN: Are you sure you're on the right channel?

MIKE: I didn't think about that. I think, somehow, she's channelling him.

DUSTIN: Like...like Professor X.

MIKE: Yeah.

LUCAS: Are you actually believing this crap?

DUSTIN: I don't know, I mean...do you remember when Will fell off his bike and broke his finger? He sounded a lot like that.

LUCAS: Did you guys not see what I saw? They pulled Will's body out of the water. He's dead!

DUSTIN: Well, maybe it's his ghost. Maybe he's haunting us.

MIKE: It's not his ghost.

LUCAS: So how do you know that?

MIKE: I just do!

LUCAS: Then what was in that water?

MIKE: I don't know! All I know is that Will is alive. Will is alive! He's out there somewhere. All we have to do is find him.

Static crackles on the Supercomm. Mike reaches out to touch it, looking at Eleven.

MIKE (CONT'D): This isn't gonna work.

Mike looks at Lucas and Dustin.

MIKE (CONT'D): We need to get El to a stronger radio.

DUSTIN: Mr.. Clarke's Heathkit ham shack.

MIKE: Yeah.

LUCAS: The Heathkit's at school. There is no way we're gonna get the weirdo in there without anyone noticing. I mean...look at her.

The boys look at Eleven. She looks at them, confused.

INT. WHEELER HOUSE – NANCY'S ROOM – DAY

Mike and Eleven sit on Nancy's window seat. Mike sets down a small makeup box and opens it, pulling out blush and a brush.

INT. WHEELER HOUSE – BASEMENT – DAY

Dustin opens a box and rifles through it. Lucas opens another box and rifles through it. Lucas pulls out a pair of blue overalls. Dustin pulls out a pair of fairy wings.

INT. WHEELER HOUSE – NANCY'S ROOM – DAY

Mike gets the blush on the brush and moves to dab it onto Eleven's cheek. She moves her head back, startled, before she lets him slowly apply it.

INT. WHEELER HOUSE – BASEMENT – DAY

Lucas pulls out an orange plaid shirt. Dustin rifles through a box. Lucas pulls out a pink Polly Flinders dress and unfolds it. Dustin pulls out a short blonde wig.

INT. WHEELER HOUSE – NANCY'S ROOM – DAY

Mike applies chapstick onto Eleven's lips.

INT. WHEELER HOUSE – BASEMENT – DAY

Lucas holds the Polly Flinders dress against his body. Dustin puts the blonde wig on his head.

INT. WHEELER HOUSE – NANCY'S ROOM – DAY

Mike nods, admiring his handiwork.

INT. WHEELER HOUSE – FIRST FLOOR LANDING – DAY

Nancy's door opens. The boys turn around to look. Eleven exits, now wearing the Polly Flinders dress and blonde wig. She walks towards them. Mike looks like he's in love. Lucas looks at Dustin, gobsmacked by how pretty Eleven looks.

DUSTIN: Wow. She looks-

MIKE: Pretty.

Eleven smiles.

MIKE (CONT'D): Good. You look pretty good.

Eleven catches sight of the mirror in the hallway and moves towards it. She looks at her reflection in the mirror.

ELEVEN: (whispers) Pretty. Good.

INT. HAWKINS LAB – HALLWAY – DAY

The elevator door opens onto a darkened hallway. People in hazmat suits exit the elevator, the only light coming from their flashlights and the dim lights on the roof. There are particles in the air.

INT. HAWKINS LAB – GATE ROOM – DAY

The people in hazmat suits enter the room. Shephard has a light in his suit, illuminating his face. He stands in front of the Gate. Someone in a hazmat suit takes a clip and clips it onto the yellow suit, pulling it to make sure it's secured. Shephard turns to the clipper.

CLIPPER: Clear.

Shephard turns to face the observation room. A group of agents in hazmat suits stand inside. Brenner is one of them.

SHEPHARD: You boys hear me all right in there?

Ground Controller: Loud and clear, Shephard.

BRENNER: Good luck in there, son.

Shephard turns and faces the Gate. A low growling can be heard. A determined look crosses his face as he walks towards it. He reaches out, running his hand down the webs that cover the membrane. Shephard sticks his hand through, piercing through the membrane, before he pulls his hand back out. It's covered in the webs. A low growling can be heard. Shephard looks back at the observation room. Brenner nods. A steely look crosses Shephard's face and he turns back to the Gate, piercing through and disappearing behind the membrane. The webs join back up behind him. The only sign of life is the wire hooked onto Shephard swaying in the air.

INT. HAWKINS HIGH SCHOOL – CLASSROOM – DAY

The teacher sits on the teacher's desk, reading Joseph Conrad's 'Heart of Darkness'.

TEACHER: "The brown current ran swiftly out of the heart of darkness, bearing us down towards the sea with twice the speed of our upward progress. And Kurtz's life was running swiftly, too--"

The door opens. The Hawkins High principal stands in the doorway.

HAWKINS HIGH PRINCIPAL: Nancy Wheeler?

Nancy looks over at the door.

HAWKINS HIGH PRINCIPAL (CONT'D): If you'll come with me, please?

Nancy looks confused but grabs her bag and things.

INT. HAWKINS HIGH SCHOOL – CAFETERIA – DAY

Powell and Callahan sit interviewing Nancy. Karen sits next to her.

POWELL: This argument you and Barbara had? What exactly was it about?

NANCY: It wasn't really an argument. Barb just wanted to leave. I didn't, so, I...I told her to just go home.

POWELL: Then what?

NANCY: Then I went upstairs to put on some dry clothes.

POWELL: And the next day, you went back and...saw a bear, you're thinking?

NANCY: I don't know what it was, but...I think...I think maybe it took Barb. You need to check behind Steve's house-

CALLAHAN: We did. There's nothing there. There's no sign of a bear.

POWELL: And no car.

NANCY: What?

CALLAHAN: Look. We figure that Barbara came back last night and then took off, went somewhere else.

POWELL: Has she ever talked to you about running off? Leaving town, maybe?

NANCY: No. No, Barb wouldn't do that, ever.

POWELL: She wasn't maybe upset about the fact that you were spending time with this boy? Uh, Steve Harrington?

NANCY: What? No!

CALLAHAN: Maybe she was jealous because she saw you go up to Steve's room?

NANCY: It wasn't like that.

CALLAHAN: Like what?

NANCY: Steve and me, we're...we're just friends. We...we just talked.

CALLAHAN: Now was this before or after you changed out of your clothes?

EXT. HAWKINS POLICE STATION – DAY

HOPPER (O.S.): So, Gary, tell me about these troopers that brought in Will.

INT. HAWKINS POLICE STATION – JOINT OFFICE AREA – DAY

GARY: It was about six of 'em, I'd say.

HOPPER: They're all Staties?

GARY: Yes, sir. Never seen that many troopers come in with a body before.

HOPPER: They told you that they were gonna take care of the autopsy, huh?

GARY: Yeah. Claimed jurisdiction. Kicked me out. Well, it all seemed a little over the top to me, considering.

HOPPER: Considering what?

GARY: Considering this was Will Byers and not John F. Kennedy.

Hopper turns to look at the TV. He sighs, standing up and walking over to it.

HOPPER: Thanks for stopping by, Gary.

GARY: Sure thing.

Hopper reaches up and turns the volume on the TV up.

O'BANNON (ON TV): ...let the people know that, uh, the troopers are on duty and you should be safe, because we think this is just an isolated incident.

REPORTER (ON TV): State trooper David O'Bannon, thank you so much for your help.

O'BANNON (ON TV): Thank you, sir.

REPORTER (ON TV): Back to you...

EXT. HAWKINS ROAD – DAY

Eleven and the boys ride their bikes down a street. Eleven looks at the stores as they pass, looking both scared and intrigued. She smiles.

INT. HAWKINS MIDDLE SCHOOL – HALLWAY – DAY

Mike and Dustin open the doors of Hawkins Middle. They walk inside, followed by Lucas and Eleven, and head towards the AV room.

MIKE: Okay, remember, if anyone sees us, look sad.

HAWKINS MIDDLE PRINCIPAL (ON PA): Attention students, there will be an assembly to honour Will Byers in the gymnasium now. Do not attend fourth period.

Mike goes to open the AV room door. It's locked. He throws his hands up in annoyance and turns around.

MIKE: It's locked.

LUCAS: What?

Lucas goes to try the door himself.

DUSTIN: (to Eleven) Hey, do you think you can open it? With your powers?

Mr. Clarke comes around the corner.

MR. CLARKE: Boys?

Eleven and the boys jump in surprise.

LUCAS: Hey.

MR. CLARKE: Assembly's about to start.

MIKE: We know. We're just, you know...

Mike tries to look upset.

LUCAS: Upset.

Lucas realises he's smiling and pretends to look upset.

DUSTIN: Yeah, definitely upset.

MIKE: We need some alone time.

DUSTIN: To cry.

MR. CLARKE: Yeah, listen...I get it. I do. I know how hard this is, but let's just be there for Will, huh? And then...

Mr. Clarke reaches into his pocket and pulls out the key to the AV room. He tosses it to Mike.

MR. CLARKE (CONT'D): The Heathkit is all yours for the rest of the day. What do you say?

Mr. Clarke spots Eleven.

MR. CLARKE (CONT'D): I don't believe we've met. What's your name?

ELEVEN: Eleven-

MIKE: Eleanor! She's my, uh-

LUCAS: Cousin.

DUSTIN: Second cousin.

MIKE: She's here for Will's funeral.

Mr. Clarke smiles at Eleven.

MR. CLARKE: Ah, well, welcome to Hawkins Middle, Eleanor. I wish you were here under better circumstances.

Eleven looks at the boys, wondering what to do. She looks at Mr. Clarke.

ELEVEN: Thank you.

MR. CLARKE: Uh, where are you from exactly?

The boys all look at Eleven. She starts shaking her head.

ELEVEN: Bad place-

DUSTIN: Sweden!

MIKE: I have a lot of Swedish family.

DUSTIN: She hates it there.

LUCAS: Cold!

DUSTIN: Subzero.

Mr. Clarke looks at all of them. He looks slightly concerned.

MR. CLARKE: Shall we?

LUCAS: Yep!

Eleven and the boys turn around and start walking to the gym, Mr. Clarke following behind them.

HAWKINS MIDDLE PRINCIPAL (O.S.): At times like these...

INT. HAWKINS MIDDLE SCHOOL – GYM – DAY

The bleachers are full of students. The teachers sit on chairs in the middle of the gym, facing the students. The Hawkins Middle principal stands at a lectern.

HAWKINS MIDDLE PRINCIPAL (CONT'D): It is important that we come together as a community. We come-

The doors to the gym slam open, opened by Dustin. All heads turn to the door. Dustin, Mike, Lucas, and Eleven stand frozen, looking at everyone looking at them.

DUSTIN: (whispers) Abort.

Dustin turns to walk out the door but is stopped by Lucas, who grabs his shoulders, turns him around, and pushes him towards the bleachers. Eleven and the boys make their way over to the bleachers. Mr. Clarke makes his way over to the teachers.

HAWKINS MIDDLE PRINCIPAL: We come together to heal...we come together to grieve...

INT. WHEELER HOUSE – KITCHEN – DAY

Nancy walks in the back door quickly, making a beeline for the stairs. Karen follows behind her, slamming the door.

KAREN: You lied to the police!

NANCY: I didn't lie!

Karen slams her bag onto the kitchen counter.

KAREN: (shouting) How naïve do you think I am? You and Steve were just talking?

Nancy turns around.

NANCY: (shouting) We slept together! Is that what you want to know? It doesn't matter!

KAREN: It does matter!

NANCY: No! It is all bullshit! It has nothing to do with Barb and she's missing. And something terrible has happened to her. I know it. I know it! And no one is listening to me!

Nancy moves towards the stairs. Karen reaches out and grabs her arm, turning her around.

KAREN: Sweetie, sweetie, I'm listening. I'm listening to you-

NANCY: No! You're not!

Nancy pulls away from Karen and starts to walk up the stairs.

KAREN: Nancy...Nancy!

Nancy runs up the stairs.

NANCY: Just leave me alone!

INT. WHEELER HOUSE – NANCY'S ROOM – DAY

Nancy runs in, slamming the door behind her and putting her books on her desk. She climbs onto the bed, dropping her bag before starting to cry. She remembers something, grabbing her bag and opening it. She rifles through, pulling out the ripped photos that she grabbed after Steve ripped them the day before. She lays them out, before picking up a ripped photo of Barb. Nancy starts to cry as she looks at it, putting it back down. Her eyes land on another ripped photo. It's a photo of something that looks familiar but that she doesn't recognise. She places it above the ripped photo of Barb, the ripped pieces lining up. She starts to grab more ripped pieces, putting the full photo together like a puzzle.

INT. WHEELER HOUSE – NANCY'S ROOM – DAY

Nancy grabs tape off a tape dispenser, using the pieces of tape to tape the ripped photo together. She holds the completed photo up, looking at the unknown creature at the edge of the photo. She runs her finger over it.

INT. HAWKINS LAB – GATE OBSERVATION ROOM – DAY

Devices beep. Brenner looks down.

BRENNER: Try him again.

GROUND CONTROLLER: Shephard, come in. Confirm comm.

The static crackles over comms.

GROUND CONTROLLER (CONT'D): Shephard, come in. Confirm comm.

Brenner hangs his head. The static crackles over comms.

SHEPHARD (ON COMMS): This is Shephard. Confirming, over.

Brenner looks up, a smile making its way onto his face.

BRENNER: Shephard. Where are you? Can you describe to us what it is you see? Over.

SHEPHARD (ON COMMS): It's low visibility. I'm about one click south of the rift. Everything's still here, but it's all eroded. Covered in blood...

Growling can be heard on comms.

BRENNER: Shephard? Do you copy?

Shephard can be heard breathing heavily.

BRENNER: Shephard? Can you hear me?

SHEPHARD (ON COMMS): There's something else here...there's something else in here!

Growling can be heard on comms. The lights around them flicker. A siren starts blaring.

BRENNER: Reel him in. (yelling) Reel him back in!

GROUND CONTROLLER: Get him in.

The agents in the Gate room start cranking the wire.

GROUND CONTROLLER (CONT'D): Come on, come on! Faster!

SHEPHARD (ON COMMS): There's something else in here! Pull me out! Pull me out, pull me out!

The wire connected to Shephard goes taut before whipping around. Growling can be heard.

SHEPHARD (CONT'D)(ON COMMS): Pull me out! Pull me out!

The wire connected to Shephard whips around. It suddenly goes slack. Everyone stares at it, unsure what to do.

GROUND CONTROLLER: Shephard, come in. Over.

COMMS AGENT: Comms are down, sir.

GROUND CONTROLLER: Shephard, come in! Over.

INT. HAWKINS LAB – GATE ROOM – DAY

The agent cracking begins to crank again. The clip makes its way back through the membrane. All it's connected to is the hook that was on the back of Shephard's suit. It's covered in blood. Brenner hangs his head. Growling can be heard on the other side of the Gate. The webs covering the membrane join back up.

HAWKINS MIDDLE PRINCIPAL (O.S.): Will Byers' death is an unimaginable tragedy.

INT. HAWKINS MIDDLE SCHOOL – GYM – DAY

HAWKINS MIDDLE PRINCIPAL (CONT'D): Will was an exceptional student and a wonderful friend to all of us. It's impossible to express the hole his loss will leave in our community. I'd like to introduce you to Sandy Sloane. She's a local grief counsellor from the church over in Jonesboro.

Mike and Lucas look around as the Hawkins Middle principal speaks.

HAWKINS MIDDLE PRINCIPAL (CONT'D)(O.S.): But before she comes up here...

Dustin and Eleven look around as the Hawkins Middle principal speaks. Dustin smiles at Eleven.

HAWKINS MIDDLE PRINCIPAL (CONT'D)(O.S.): I want those of you who are having trouble dealing with this tragic loss...

MIKE: Look at these fakers.

LUCAS: They probably didn't even know his name till today.

Troy and James chuckle as they watch the Hawkins Middle Principal speak.

JAMES: What?

TROY (O.S.): Who is interested in this? This is so stupid.

Mike, Lucas, Dustin, and Eleven hear Troy and James and look up at them.

TROY (CONT'D): Blah, blah, blah, blah, blah...

James chuckles.

Mike, Lucas, Dustin, and Eleven hear Troy and James and look up at them. Eleven leans forward, past Mike, to look at the pair.

TROY (CONT'D)(O.S.): (mocking) Oh, he was such a great student. (mock crying) Oh, he's going to leave a hole in the community.

Troy and James chuckle.

ELEVEN: Mouth breather.

Mike looks at Eleven. She looks at him briefly before sitting back in her seat. He looks back at Troy and James.

INT. HAWKINS MIDDLE SCHOOL – GYM – DAY

The bell rings. Students make their way off the bleachers. Mike makes a beeline for Troy and James.

MIKE: Hey! Hey! Hey, Troy!

Troy and James turn around.

MIKE (CONT'D): You...you think this is funny?

TROY: What'd you say, Wheeler?

MIKE: I saw you guys laughing over there. And I think that's a really messed up thing to do.

JAMES: Didn't you listen to the counsellor, Wheeler? Grief shows itself in funny ways.

A crowd has gathered around the group.

TROY: Besides, what's there to be sad about, anyway? Will's in fairyland now, right? Flying around with all the other little fairies. All happy and gay!

Troy imitates a fairy. Troy and James turn to walk away. Mike follows them and pushes Troy to the ground. He grunts as he lands. The crowd gasps. Troy looks up at Mike, angry,

TROY (CONT'D): You're dead, Wheeler!

Troy stands up, running at Mike.

TROY (CONT'D): Dead!

Troy stops short. Everyone looks confused. Troy is frozen in place. Mike looks down. A wet patch is forming on Troy's pants, a line making its way down one leg.

GREG: Dude, Troy peed himself.

The crowd laughs. Troy looks mortified. Mike turns around and looks at Eleven. Blood is trickling out of her nose.

DUSTIN (O.S.): Holy shit!

Eleven smiles at Mike, wiping her bloody nose before walking away. The Hawkins Middle principal finally notices the commotion and walks over.

HAWKINS MIDDLE PRINCIPAL: Hey! What's going on here?

The crowd disperses, running away. Lucas runs up to Mike.

LUCAS: Mike! Let's go!

Troy looks down at his feet. He's standing in a puddle of urine. James walks away. Troy doesn't know what to do.

INT. HAWKINS FUNERAL HOME – DISPLAY ROOM – DAY

The funeral director shows a casket to Jonathan.

FUNERAL DIRECTOR: It's made of soft wood with a crepe interior. Uh, now, I...I don't know what your budget is, but over here, we...we have copper and bronze.

The funeral director leads Jonathan over to another lot of caskets. Jonathan sighs. He stops when he sees Nancy standing in the doorway. He looks at the funeral director.

JONATHAN: Can you just give me a second?

The funeral director nods.

FUNERAL DIRECTOR: Of course.

Jonathan walks over to Nancy. He looks confused.

JONATHAN: Hey.

NANCY: Hey. Your mum, um...she said you'd be here. I just...

Nancy takes a deep breath.

NANCY (CONT'D): Can we talk for a second?

INT. HAWKINS FUNERAL HOME – WAITING ROOM – DAY

Nancy and Jonathan sit on a bench. Jonathan looks at the taped photo.

JONATHAN: It looks like it could be some kind of perspective distortion, but I wasn't using the wide angle.

Jonathan hands the photo back to Nancy.

JONATHAN (CONT'D): I don't know. It's weird.

NANCY: And you're sure you didn't see anyone else out there?

JONATHAN: No. And she was there one second and then, um...gone. I figured she bolted.

NANCY: The cops think that she ran away. But they don't know Barb. And I went back to Steve's...and I thought I...saw something. Some...weird man or...I don't know what it was.

Nancy looks at Jonathan.

NANCY (CONT'D): I'm sorry. I...I shouldn't have come here today. I'm...

Nancy grabs her bag and stands up. She stands in front of Jonathan.

NANCY (CONT'D): I'm so sorry.

Nancy moves for the door.

JONATHAN: What'd he look like?

Nancy stops. Turns.

NANCY: What?

JONATHAN: This man you saw in the woods. What'd he look like?

NANCY: I don't know. It was almost like he...he didn't have-

JONATHAN: Didn't have a face?

Nancy looks confused.

NANCY: How did you know that?

INT. HIDEAWAY – EATING AREA – DAY

Hopper sits at the bar, drinking whiskey. Next to him, O'Bannon watches the game, drinking beer. O'Bannon slams his hand on the table.

O'BANNON: Aw, come on!

Hopper finishes his drink.

HOPPER: Another, please.

Hopper gestures at O'Bannon.

HOPPER (CONT'D): And another for my, uh, friend here.

O'BANNON: Oh, thanks, man. Appreciate it.

HOPPER: Yeah, that's all right. I'm, uh...I'm celebrating. My daughter, she won the spelling bee today.

O'BANNON: Is that right?

HOPPER: Yeah, that's right. "Odontalgia". That was the word. You know what it means?

O'BANNON shakes his head.

HOPPER (CONT'D): It's a fancy name for a toothache. Yeah, she's smart. She's real smart. Don't know where she gets it from. I've been tryin' to figure that out for years.

O'BANNON: Your daughter, she got a name?

HOPPER: What?

O'BANNON: Your daughter? What's her name?

HOPPER: Sara. Her name's Sara.

O'Bannon puts his empty beer can down and grabs a fresh one. He holds it up.

O'BANNON: To Sara.

Hopper holds his glass up. They toast. Hopper sets his glass down. He looks at O'Bannon.

HOPPER: I recognise you. Are you famous or somethin'?

O'BANNON: Uh, you might have seen me on TV, I, uh...I found that Byers boy.

HOPPER: So, you on that case or what?

O'BANNON: I just saw him on patrol, you know? Dumb luck.

HOPPER: So that quarry, that's, uh...that's state-run, where they found the boy, huh?

O'BANNON: Yeah.

HOPPER: Yeah, well, that's funny. Cause, you know, I know for a fact that it's run by the Sattler Company. Frank Sattler? Decent guy, still got a couple operational quarries in Roane.

O'BANNON: Is that right?

Hopper looks at O'Bannon.

HOPPER: Yeah. That's right. So why are you lying to me, man?

O'Bannon looks at Hopper.

O'BANNON: What's your problem, bud?

HOPPER: I don't have a problem. I'm just a concerned citizen.

O'BANNON: Yeah? Well, stick your nose someplace else. The kid is dead. End of story.

O'Bannon stands up, taking some money out of his breast pocket and putting it on the bar. He grabs his jacket from the back of his chair.

O'BANNON: Thanks for ruining the game, dick.

Hopper shakes his head, drinking the last of his whiskey.

EXT. HIDEAWAY – BACKYARD – DAY

Hopper punches O'Bannon a few times, grabbing him by the collar and holding him against the wall.

HOPPER: (panting) Okay...let's try this one more time.

Hopper grabs O'Bannon by the face. O'Bannon groans.

HOPPER (CONT'D): Who told you to be out there? What were you doing out there?

O'Bannon refuses to say anything. Hopper holds up a fist to punch him again. O'Bannon whimpers.

O'BANNON: I don't know! I don't know. They...they just told me to call it in and not let anybody get too close.

HOPPER: Get close to what?

O'BANNON: The body.

HOPPER: Who do you work for? The NSA? Hawkins Lab?

O'Bannon looks somewhere past Hopper. Hopper turns around, trying to spot what O'Bannon is looking at. He spots a dark brown car.

HOPPER (CONT'D): Who is that?

The car's engine starts.

O'BANNON: You're gonna get us both killed.

HOPPER: Who is that?

Hopper drops O'Bannon to run towards the car. He gets out his gun.

HOPPER (CONT'D): Hey! Hey!

Behind Hopper, O'Bannon grabs his jacket from off the ground and runs off. The car's tyres screech as it pulls away. Hopper pants as the car drives off, turning back to see O'Bannon is gone. He looks back in the direction the car went, panting.

INT. BYERS HOUSE (HAWKINS) – LOUNGE ROOM – DAY

Joyce presses play on the cassette player. 'Should I Stay Or Should I Go' by The Clash starts playing. She paces around the room, waiting for the lights to blink again.

JOYCE: Come on! Come on! Talk to me! I know you're here!

She grabs a few of the bulbs in desperation, hanging her head.

INT. HAWKINS MIDDLE SCHOOL – AV ROOM – DAY

Mike locks the door.

MIKE (O.S.): Come on.

Mike leads Eleven over to the Heathkit, pulling out the chair. Lucas and Dustin follow. Eleven sits down.

DUSTIN: Now what?

MIKE: She'll find him. Right, El?

Mike starts playing with the Heathkit, radio frequencies tuning. Eleven closes her eyes. The boys stare at her.

FLSHBCK – INT. HAWKINS LAB – TESTING ROOM – DAY

Eleven sits at a table, staring at a photo of a man. She has her knees to her chest. An EEG sits on her head. Brenner stands behind her, pouring a glass of water.

BRENNER: Eleven? Are you listening?

Brenner sets the glass of water down on the table.

BRENNER (CONT'D): That man before you...

Brenner pulls up a chair beside Eleven and sits down.

BRENNER (CONT'D): I need you to find him.

ELEVEN: (softly) Hurt him?

BRENNER: No. No, I don't want you to hurt him.

Brenner pulls the photo closer to Eleven.

BRENNER (CONT'D): I want you to listen to him.

ELEVEN: Listen?

BRENNER: Yes. I want you to listen to what he says and repeat his words back to me. Just like we used to do with those old nursery rhymes.

Eleven looks from the photo to Brenner.

BRENNER (CONT'D): Do you remember? Hmm? Do you think you can do that for me?

Eleven nods.

ELEVEN: Mmm-hmm.

BRENNER: Good.

Brenner pushes Eleven to sit up properly. She looks at the photo, closing her eyes.

FLSHBCK – INT. HAWKINS LAB – HALLWAY – DAY

The camera slowly moves towards a room at the end of the hallway.

MAN (ON PA): Begin.

MAN 2 (O.S.): Amulet. Frigid.

The camera nears the room. We now see the man sitting inside.

MAN 2 (CONT'D): Evolve. Airplane.

FLSHBCK – INT. HAWKINS LAB – TESTING ROOM – DAY

Brenner watches Eleven.

BRENNER: Eleven? Repeat the words.

Eleven doesn't say anything. The lights suddenly go out. A crackle on the PA. Brenner turns to look at it.

MAN 2 (ON PA): Apricot. Peninsula. Game. Enchantment. Mouse. Balloon.

INT. HAWKINS MIDDLE SCHOOL – AV ROOM – DAY

Eleven sits with her eyes closed. Mike, Dustin, and Lucas watch.

MIKE: She's doing it. She's finding him!

DUSTIN: This is crazy.

LUCAS: Calm down. She just closed her eyes.

The light above them goes out, startling the boys. They look up at it, gasping.

DUSTIN: Holy...

A clanging can be heard over the Heathkit. The boys look at it, leaning in.

DUSTIN (CONT'D): What is that?

Frequencies change. The clanging continues.

INT. BYERS HOUSE (HAWKINS) – LOUNGE ROOM – DAY

'Should I Stay Or Should I Go' by The Clash is playing. A clanging can be heard coming from the wall the Demogorgon came out of. Joyce turns to look at it. She shuts off the music and slowly approaches the wall. A child can be heard whimpering.

WILL (O.S.): (echoing) Mum?

JOYCE: Will?

INT. HAWKINS MIDDLE SCHOOL – AV ROOM – DAY

WILL (ON HEATHKIT): Mum?

LUCAS: No way!

INT. BYERS HOUSE (HAWKINS) – LOUNGE ROOM – DAY

WILL (O.S.): Mum...

JOYCE: Will!

WILL (O.S.): Please...

Joyce runs away from the wall.

JOYCE: Will!

Joyce opens the front door and runs outside.

JOYCE (CONT'D): Will!

Joyce stops short. Will isn't outside. She looks around in confusion.

JOYCE (CONT'D): Will...

Joyce runs back inside, back to the wall.

JOYCE (CONT'D): Will!

WILL (O.S.): Mum!

JOYCE: Will!

Joyce bangs her hands against the wall.

JOYCE (CONT'D): I'm here! I'm here!

Joyce starts pulling at the wallpaper.

JOYCE (CONT'D): Oh, God...

WILL (O.S.): (echoing) Mum!

INT. HAWKINS MIDDLE SCHOOL – AV ROOM – DAY

MIKE: Will!

LUCAS: Will, it's us! Are you there?

DUSTIN: Can you hear us? We're here!

WILL (ON HEATHKIT): (distorted) Hello? Mum?

LUCAS: Why can't he hear us?

MIKE: I don't know!

INT. BYERS HOUSE (HAWKINS) – LOUNGE ROOM – DAY

Joyce is pulling the wallpaper away. It reveals a membrane. Will can be seen on the other side.

JOYCE: Baby...

WILL: Mum?

JOYCE: Oh, God! Will!

WILL: (echoing) Mum!

INT. BYERS HOUSE (HAWKINS) – LOUNGE ROOM – UPSIDE DOWN

Joyce can be seen through the membrane.

JOYCE: Oh, thank God.

INT. BYERS HOUSE (HAWKINS) – LOUNGE ROOM – DAY

Will can be seen through the membrane.

JOYCE (CONT'D): (crying) Baby...Will...

A monster can be heard growling.

WILL: Mum...

Will looks behind him. He looks scared.

WILL (CONT'D): Mum, it's coming!

INT. BYERS HOUSE (HAWKINS) – LOUNGE ROOM – UPSIDE DOWN

Joyce can be seen through the membrane.

JOYCE: Tell me where you are! How do I get to you?

INT. HAWKINS MIDDLE SCHOOL – AV ROOM – DAY

WILL (ON HEATHKIT): (echoing) It's like home, but it's so dark...it's so dark and empty. And it's cold! Mum? Mum!

INT. BYERS HOUSE (HAWKINS) – LOUNGE ROOM – DAY

Will can be seen through the membrane.

JOYCE: Listen to me! I swear I'm gonna get to you, okay? But right now, I need you to hide.

The wall starts closing up.

WILL: Mum, please!

JOYCE: No, no, listen! Listen, I...I will find you, but you have to run now! Run! Run!

The wall seals up.

INT. HAWKINS MIDDLE SCHOOL – AV ROOM – DAY

A fuse in the Heathkit blows, sparking brightly. The boys jump back, yelping. Eleven opens her eyes. The Heathkit is on fire. A fire alarm starts ringing. Dustin runs over and grabs the fire extinguisher, spraying the Heathkit. Eleven's nose is bleeding. She looks exhausted.

INT. BYERS HOUSE (HAWKINS) – LOUNGE ROOM – DAY

Joyce grabs an axe, bringing it down on the wall.

INT. HAWKINS MIDDLE SCHOOL – AV ROOM – DAY

The fire alarm rings. Mike grabs Eleven's chair and turns her to face him.

MIKE: El, are you okay?

LUCAS: Oh!

Eleven doesn't answer. She looks exhausted.

MIKE: Can you move?

Eleven doesn't answer. Mike looks concerned. He looks at Lucas before grabbing Eleven's arm.

MIKE (CONT'D): Here, help her up.

Lucas grabs Eleven's other arm, he and Mike helping her stand up. As they start to help her out of the room, Dustin grabs her legs.

INT. BYERS HOUSE (HAWKINS) – LOUNGE ROOM – DAY

Joyce is bringing the axe down on the wall. She breaks through the wall, sunlight streaming through the hole. She pulls at the insulation, staring out of the hole. She looks confused, desperate, dejected. The only thing on the other side of the wall is her front yard. There's no Will. Joyce sobs softly.

INT. HAWKINS MIDDLE SCHOOL – HALLWAY – DAY

The fire alarm rings, and students racing down a perpendicular hallway. Mike, Dustin, and Lucas rush out of the AV room, pushing Eleven, who lays on a cart.

MIKE: This way!

INT. HAWKINS HIGH SCHOOL – DARK ROOM – DAY

Jonathan slides a ripped photo piece into a machine, flicking a switch. Nancy watches him.

NANCY: And you're...

JONATHAN: Brightening. Enlarging.

NANCY: Hmm.

Jonathan grabs a device and holds it over a panel, putting his eye against it.

NANCY (CONT'D): Did your mum say anything else? Like, um, where it might have gone to, or...

Jonathan shakes his head.

JONATHAN: No, just that it came out of the wall.

A machine dings. Jonathan stands up, grabbing something and moving the device off the panel.

INT. HAWKINS HIGH SCHOOL – DARK ROOM – DAY

Jonathan lays a film in development fluid. He starts moving the tub around slowly.

NANCY: How long does this take?

JONATHAN: Not long.

NANCY: Have you been...doing this a while?

JONATHAN: What?

NANCY: Photography.

JONATHAN: Yeah. I guess I'd rather observe people than, you know...

NANCY: Talk to them.

JONATHAN: I know. It's weird.

NANCY: No!

JONATHAN: No, it is. It's just, sometimes...people don't really say what they're really thinking. But you capture the right moment...it says more.

NANCY: What was I saying?

JONATHAN: What?

NANCY: When you took my picture.

JONATHAN: I shouldn't have taken that. I'm, uh...I'm sorry. It's just-

Nancy looks down at the film in the development fluid.

NANCY: That's it.

In the tub of development fluid, an enlarged photo has developed. It's dark, but it's the Demogorgon.

NANCY (CONT'D): That's what I saw.

JONATHAN: My mum...I thought she was crazy cause she said...that's not Will's body. That he's alive.

NANCY: And if he's alive-

JONATHAN: Then Barbara.

EXT. ROANE COUNTY CORONER – NIGHT

Hopper drives up, turning his truck off and getting out. He grabs his hat, moving to put it on, before thinking better of it and throwing it back in the truck.

INT. ROANE COUNTY CORONER – WAITING ROOM – NIGHT

Patty sits behind the desk, talking on the phone. She holds her hand over the transmitter as Hopper approaches.

HOPPER: Hey, Patty!

PATTY: Hey, uh, need something, Chief?

HOPPER: Oh, you know, I forgot my hat.

PATTY: Oh.

HOPPER: I'll just be a minute.

INT. ROANE COUNTY CORONER – HALLWAY – NIGHT

A state trooper sits outside the morgue, reading Stephen King's 'Cujo'. Hopper approaches.

HOPPER: Hey, I love that book. It's a nasty mutt.

The state trooper stands up, putting his book aside. He blocks the door into the morgue.

STATE TROOPER: Hey, you can't be back here.

HOPPER: Yeah, I just got off the line with O'Bannon. He said he needs to see you at the station. It's some emergency-

STATE TROOPER: What the hell are you talking about? I don't work with O'Bannon.

HOPPER: Did I say O'Bannon? I meant...

Hopper trails off, trying to think of what to say. He smacks his lips.

HOPPER (CONT'D): Okay.

Hopper punches the state trooper, knocking him out. Hopper reaches down and grabs a set of keys off the state trooper's belt, standing up and looking around before using the keys to unlock the morgue.

INT. ROANE COUNTY CORONER – MORGUE – NIGHT

Hopper enters the morgue, walking into the mortuary. He opens a body fridge, closing it. He opens another, pausing before pulling the tray out. A body lies on the tray, covered by a cloth. Hopper pulls back the cloth to the neck. It's Will. He turns, walking away, before stopping and walking back. He pulls the cloth back further, revealing Will's chest. He pushes on it. He gasps in confusion, looking at his hand. He exhales heavily, pulling a pocket knife out of his pocket. He stares at Will, preparing himself. He reaches over and puts the knife to Will's abdomen before pausing, pulling it away slightly. Hopper takes a deep breath and stabs the knife through Will's abdomen, cutting up towards his chest. Will's skin acts abnormally. Hopper looks confused, reaching into the cut, before he has a shocked realisation. Inside Will's body is stuffing. This isn't Will. It's a fake body. Joyce was right.

INT. BYERS HOUSE (HAWKINS) – LOUNGE ROOM – NIGHT

Light streams in through the windows. Joyce is sitting on the ground. She looks up when she sees light, confused. She groans as she stands up.

EXT. BYERS HOUSE (HAWKINS) – FRONT YARD – NIGHT

A car pulls up. Lonnie gets out, looking concerned as he walks towards the front door.

LONNIE: Babe...Jesus, the hell happened?

Joyce sobs, holding her arms out to pull Lonnie in for a hug.

JOYCE: Lonnie.

The pair hold onto each other, illuminated by the headlights of Lonnie's car.

EXT. HAWKINS LAB – PERIMETER FENCE – NIGHT

Hopper pulls up, turning off his car and getting out. He holds bolt cutters in his hand. He walks up to the fence, looking around as he does so. He opens the bolt cutters and places them around a fence wire. He snaps them together.

Cut to black.

END EPISODE.